

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 14-15, 2007

Reference No.: 2.2c.(3)
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Jay Norvell
Division Chief
Environmental Analysis

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING,**
10-Mer-99, PM 0.0/10.5
RESOLUTION E-07-04

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-07-04.

ISSUE:

The attached resolution proposes to approve for future consideration of funding the following project for which a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) has been completed:

- Route 99 in Merced County – Roadway improvements near Merced.

This project in Merced County will improve a 10.5 mile section of Route 99 from a four lane highway to a six lane expressway. The project is programmed in the 2006 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The overall project is not fully funded. Project development and right of way, however, are fully funded in the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program and Traffic Congestion Relief Program for \$35,787,000. The total estimated project cost is \$270 million. Construction is estimated to begin in Fiscal Year 2009-10. The project is proposed in the State Route 99 Bond Program.

The FEIR has been transmitted to Commission staff. This project involves the acquisition of new right of way and conversion of existing farmlands. As a result, an Environmental Impact Report was prepared.

The Department has approved the project for construction. This approval and the filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

Attachments

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Resolution for Future Consideration of Funding 10-Mer-99, PM 0.0/10.5

Resolution E-07-04

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has completed a Final Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
 - Route 99 in Merced County – Roadway improvements near Merced.
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the Department has certified that the Final Environmental Impact Report has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the Final Environmental Impact Report did not identify any significant effects after mitigation.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby approve the above referenced project to allow for future consideration of funding.

State Route 99 / Plainsburg Road / Arboleda Drive Freeway Project

E.A. 10-415700 / 415800

P.M. 0.0/10.5 K.P. 0.0/16.9

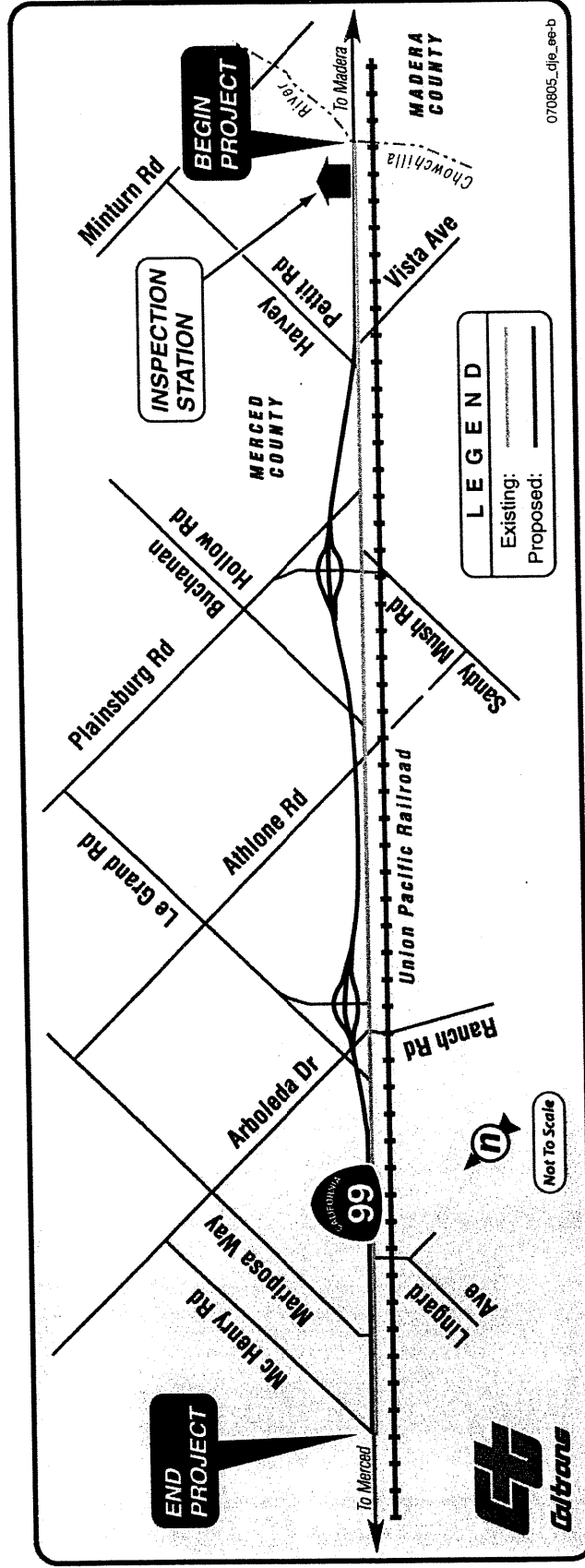


Figure 1-2 Project Location Map